

Corporation for National and Community Service

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AWARD NOTIFICATION: SENIOR CORPS RSVP EXPANSION GRANTS

Background

Throughout the country, Senior Corps engages the skills, talents, and experience of more than 245,000 Americans age 55 and over to meet a wide range of community challenges through a network of three programs — the Foster Grandparent Program, the Senior Companion Program and RSVP. Through Senior Corps, older adults make a real difference through the lives of individuals and as they help increase the capacity of nonprofit organizations, community agencies, faith-based and tribal organizations throughout the United States. The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) awards grants to these local organizations and public agencies to administer these programs.

RSVP strengthens public and nonprofit agencies by building the infrastructure needed to efficiently and effectively mobilize experienced and skilled volunteers with vital programs and services. One of the largest volunteer efforts in the country, RSVP engages more than 208,000 older adults, retired or not, who use their skills and life experience in volunteer service that helps solve challenges facing communities. RSVP volunteers serve in diverse volunteer roles that may include: intergenerational education; access to care including opioid abuse/prevention; transportation services that support aging in place; housing services and activities in evidence-based programs. Additionally, they help increase the capacity of local organizations by recruiting and managing other volunteers.

In January 2017, Senior Corps opened the 2017 RSVP Expansion Competition with a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). This national competition was an opportunity for communities—with no current RSVP program—to apply for funds and establish new programs that address national priorities. The response was tremendous. Requests for funding outpaced the available funding amount by more than five times resulting in a highly competitive applicant pool. In accordance with the criteria and process established by the NOFO, 50 organizations were selected to be awarded grants. Together, these grants total a funding amount of \$5,370,177 for a total of 7,766 new RSVP volunteers.

Award Information

Recipient: Mid-Ohio Valley Regional Council (MOVRC)
531 Market Street
Parkersburg, West Virginia 26101 - 5143
(304) 422-4993 104

Program Contact: Marijo Tedesco, marijo.tedesco@movrc.org

Program Period/Amount: \$75,000 per year/3 years (pending annual appropriations)

Target Geography: Mason and Wetzel Counties

Program Summary:

The Mid-Ohio Valley Regional Council (MOVRC) is one of 11 Planning and Development Councils in West Virginia that promotes economic and community development while providing for the general welfare of its citizens. MOVRC will recruit 80 RSVP volunteers to serve at least 300 seniors in six volunteer stations to expand into the two new rural counties of Mason and Wetzel. RSVP volunteers will provide independent living services that support the needs of homebound seniors, disabled elderly and veterans. Volunteers will staff food pantries, distribute food, provide companionship through physical visits and/or telephone reassurance, educate the elderly about financial scams and provide tax counseling services to these seniors, most of whom have incomes below the federal poverty level.